
QUALITY OF LIFE



Figure 109: Children reading at day camp. Photo courtesy of the Art Academy of Cincinnati.

Retaining and enhancing neighborhood character is key to the quality of life in any neighborhood. In Over-the-Rhine this is especially true, since its residents and other stakeholders take an enormous amount of pride in the community's multi-cultural residential and business population, diverse retail and cultural and entertainment alternatives and pedestrian lifestyle in which the street acts as the neighborhood's living room.

This unique urban lifestyle takes place, in part, due to the neighborhood's exceptional built environment. This environment also creates a new challenge: How does a 19th-century community retain its physical character while adjusting to the needs of modern life? While we make room for modern-day necessities, such as larger sites for schools and parks, and the cars and parking structures that will accompany additional residents, we also need to preserve and enhance those characteristics that define OTR. This would include its historic buildings, existing greenspace, pedestrian focus and reputation as a place for diverse groups of people to live, work and visit.

With this in mind, almost any issue could be lumped under the category "quality of life." Because of this, committee members elected to narrow the focus from a myriad of possibilities to a handful of key issues. The crux of the committee's concerns is the quality of education and recreational activities for local youth. They also discussed ways to improve the appearance of the neighborhood, many of which may also play a role in the level of and perception of safety in the neighborhood. In addition, they focused on the many cultural resources in the neighborhood and how to maximize those institutions and their contribution to the neighborhood and the city.

Schools

Community residents consider OTR's educational institutions, both public and private, to be one of the neighborhood's greatest assets. Dedicated teachers and administrators provide children with excellent adult role models and parents consider the schools to be safe places. Many parents choose to live in a part of the neighborhood that is close to their children's school, allowing their children to walk to and from school.

There are four public schools. *Washington Park Elementary* serves the largest number of children in OTR, drawing children from as far north as W. McMicken Avenue, east to Race Street and south into downtown. *Rothenberg Elementary* serves children living in the central portion of the neighborhood north of Liberty Street and those living in Pendleton. *Vine Street Elementary*, located in Mt. Auburn, serves children from the northernmost streets in the Mohawk area. The *School for Creative and Performing Arts (SCPA)*, Cincinnati's public magnet arts school for students in grades 4 through 12, serves students living throughout the Cincinnati region. Programs at SCPA include music, creative writing, dance, entertainment marketing, technical theatre and visual arts.

In addition, OTR is home to three private schools. *St. Francis Seraph* and *St. Peter Claver Boys Latin School* are Catholic elementary schools and *W.E.B. DuBois* is a Charter School. There will be an entrepreneurial charter high school in the neighborhood as well.

The quality and effectiveness of the schools are a key element to the quality of life in OTR. In OTR, nearly 33% of the population is age 19 or younger, with more than 20% school-age children. Of the 1802 children living in OTR enrolled in public or private school, over 45% attend one of the three existing elementary schools in OTR. OTR parents should want to send their children there not just because they are the closest schools, but also because they offer the highest quality programming and facilities available. For that reason, the decisions made during the Cincinnati Public Schools Master Planning are crucial to the future of OTR's children.



Figure 110: Schools in OTR

According to the Cincinnati Public Schools Master Plan, *Vine Elementary School* will likely be closed with children transferred to either Washington Park School or Rothenberg School. *Rothenberg School* will likely be renovated onsite. *Washington Park School* may be rebuilt in its current location or on property that is currently a parking lot immediately south of Washington Park, between 12th Street and Central Parkway. The *SCPA* is also slated for changes; currently an effort is underway to raise enough money to build a new K-12 Arts campus adjacent to Music Hall. If relocation occurs, the current *SCPA* would likely be closed and available for other uses.

Since schools are a cornerstone in the lives of the neighborhood's children as well as one of the neighborhood's assets, any changes, even when for the better, may cause a certain amount of disruption to the community. In addition, some members of the community do not approve of the proposed relocation of *SCPA*. Identification of these challenges now provides the opportunity for Cincinnati Public Schools to address these issues in their planning process.

Students, teachers, administrators and parents will all be included in decisions regarding the location of schools and the amenities and programming provided. One step in this direction was the formation of a working group made up of parents, teachers, Local School Decision-Making Committees (LSDMCs), school board representatives, this plan's Quality of Life committee and other community leaders. Facilitated by the Children's Defense Fund, using the Concordia process, this group will ensure that all stakeholders are included in the decisions made about the facilities' improvements and programming changes in the OTR schools. This plan makes some specific recommendations regarding school locations and schools as important anchors in the neighborhood.

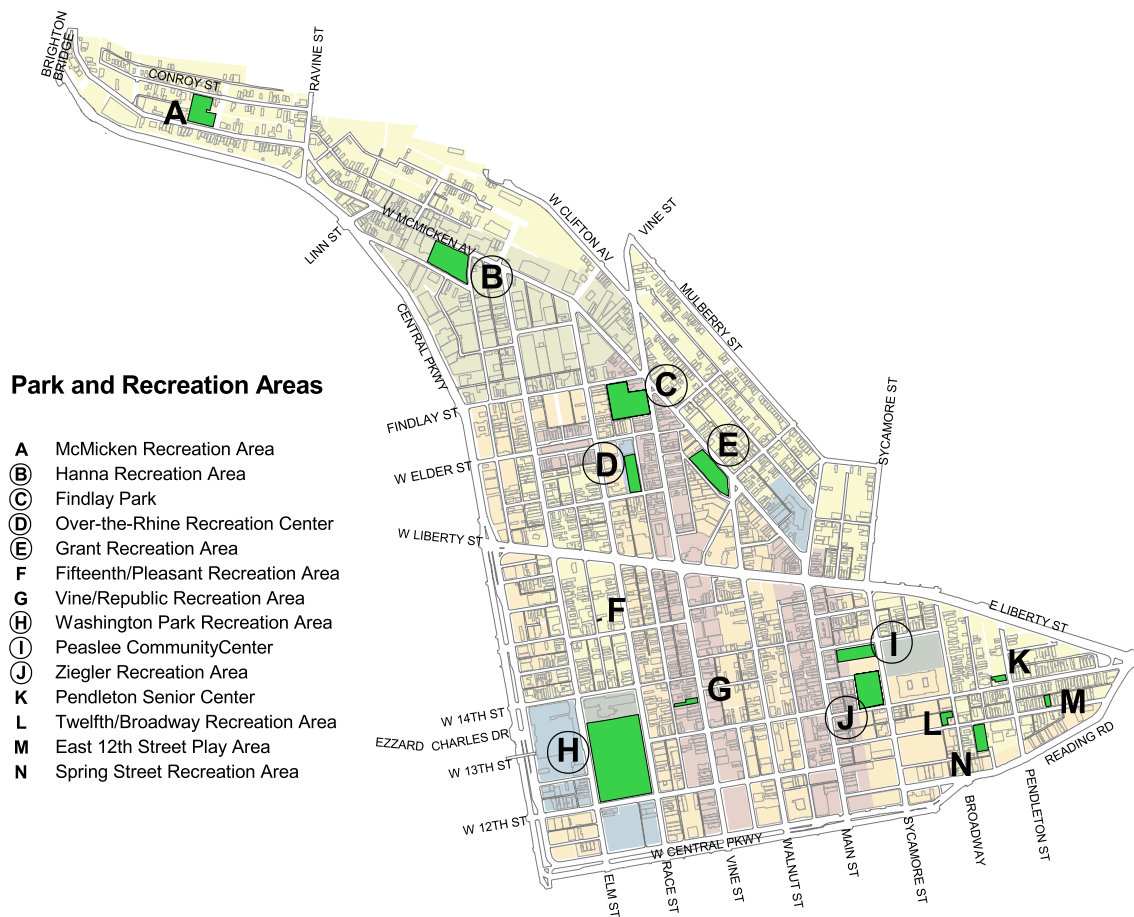


Figure 111: Parks and Recreation Areas in OTR. The circled letters denote sites specifically addressed in this plan.

Parks and Outdoor Recreation Areas

OTR has a total of 12 city-operated parks and outdoor recreation areas totaling approximately 13 acres. These parks provide a number of outdoor pools, recreational play equipment and athletic courts.

Community Centers and Youth Programs

OTR also has a number of community centers providing educational and recreational activities. The *OTR Recreation Center*, located one block southeast of Findlay Market, is operated by the Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC). It provides programming for children and adults including an indoor pool, indoor skating rink, weight room and game room. The *Peaslee Neighborhood Center*, operated by community volunteers, provides homework rooms, daycare and arts education, including the Over-the-Rhine Steel Drum Band, which is well known in Cincinnati.

The Salvation Army provides an after-school program, a summer day camp and community service projects for neighborhood children and teens. *Volunteers of America CAN-Do Program* focuses on encouraging local teens to finish high school and attend college. Their teen club provides positive social activities for local youth. The *Boys and Girls Club of Cincinnati*, *Emanuel Community Center* and *Urban Appalachian Council Center* also play a significant role in the lives of residents.



Figure 112: A Community Garden in OTR.

Greenspace and Hillsides

While most of the neighborhood is located in a very urban environment with little tree coverage, some vacant parcels on steep hillsides have extensive tree coverage. The OTR Community Council has promoted tree planting along Race and Elm Streets, making those streets particularly pleasant and visually appealing for residents and other users of those streets. Additional trees in other places throughout the neighborhood will enhance areas frequently used by pedestrians.

Greenspace is also scattered throughout the neighborhood in the form of community gardens. These small gardens are surrounded by homes and businesses are tended by local families, children and other residents. IMPACT OTR and the Cincinnati Civic Garden Club, two area community groups, will help to create a suitable place for a garden and educate the residents about planting and tending to the gardens. IMPACT volunteers also work with area youth to teach horticultural skills. Interested youth can enter the program, learn to prepare and cultivate a garden and turn a profit from the harvest at Findlay Market.

Cultural Institutions and Destinations

OTR is home to some of the region's most enduring cultural institutions: Music Hall, the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Opera, Memorial Hall and Findlay Market. These and other destinations, like the SCPA, the Pendleton Arts Center, the Ensemble Theatre of Cincinnati, Gabriel's Corner, Uptown Arts and the future site of the Art Academy of Cincinnati, provide a rich set of resources to the entire Cincinnati community. These regional cultural destinations draw many visitors from the Cincinnati region to OTR and have the ability to provide residents with unique opportunities.

In addition to these very visible cultural institutions, OTR also houses

an untold number of individuals and community groups who host and participate in both traditional and non-traditional cultural activities. Individuals and groups involved in cultural activities include musicians, writers, designers, spoken-word performance artists, painters, sculptors, photographers and folk artists. Several youth organizations sponsor arts programs. Additionally, outside artists and musicians are drawn to the neighborhood for its studio space, its diverse population and its proximity to downtown, other arts organizations and public transportation.

Such cultural and artistic variety is one of the most unique aspects of OTR as it offers what no other neighborhood in Cincinnati can. The challenge is to make connections between all of these resources and neighborhood residents and between regional patrons and the neighborhood.



Figure 113: Cultural Destinations in OTR



Figure 114: Actors at Ensemble Theatre interacting with visiting students. Photo courtesy of Ensemble Theatre of Cincinnati.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Parks and Recreation Areas

While residents often use some of the parks, others are rarely used, either because they have out-of-date equipment or have become dilapidated or are perceived as unsafe. Specifically, *Washington Park* is in need of general updates including modernization of its public restroom. *Grant Park's* basketball courts are in disrepair and the park needs additional trees and other plantings. Some parks and recreation areas are not easily accessible, such as Ziegler and Findlay Market Recreation Areas. Both have facilities that are in fairly good condition, but lack a logical connection between other well-used community centers. *Ziegler* is near the Peaslee Neighborhood Center, but one has to cross a sea of fencing and parking to travel between the two. Such is also the case for the *Findlay Market Recreation Area*, which is located less than a block away from the OTR Recreation Center, but again there is no direct, visible connection. Specific improvements to the parks and recreation areas will greatly enhance the quality of life for the neighborhood children.

Relationship Between Cultural Organizations and Residents

Arts and cultural institutions have been an integral part of OTR for a century. The opportunities they present have always drawn people to this neighborhood. In the last 20 years however, the relationship between arts organizations and area residents has sometimes been difficult. Individual artists and non-traditional artistic and cultural groups have not always had the same resources or patrons as the regional cultural destinations. Some residents do not have the resources to patronize the traditional cultural destinations in the neighborhood. This has caused a strain between the residents and the regional cultural destinations such as Music Hall, Ensemble Theatre of Cincinnati and SCPA.

The cultural destinations in OTR have regional significance, but some residents fail to see how their presence can benefit their lives. Some cultural organizations, such as the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and the Cincinnati Opera, have made efforts to reach out to embrace neighborhood residents. Some organizations have not made such efforts, however, and some residents feel that the cultural groups do not respect them. These efforts could be expanded throughout the arts community. If future alliances are forged between residents and cultural organizations, there is tremendous possibility for further interaction and mutual appreciation.



Figure 115: A view of Memorial Hall from the gazebo in Washington Park. Photo courtesy of Kenneth Cunningham and Associates.

Neighborhood Appearance

While some parts of OTR are well cared for, other pockets in the community have abundant litter, overgrown weeds, dilapidated and vacant buildings, abandoned cars and broken glass. Poor lighting, unattractive parking lots and the lack of a uniform design scheme only accentuate these problems.

The city's Department of Public Services has various work crews picking up litter and emptying city-owned cans in OTR from 5 a.m. until 9 p.m. daily. One crew works specifically on Vine Street, picking up litter on foot, and Vine Street is also cleaned with a mechanical sweeper nightly. Some residents, employees and property owners also tend to the area surrounding their buildings. Somehow, the debris continues to be an issue.

It will be an ongoing challenge for all community stakeholders to rid the neighborhood of these conditions. The opportunity lies in the positive benefits that can result from such an effort. The ongoing effort to rid the neighborhood of blight will not only improve the appearance, but will also make the neighborhood less attractive for criminals, safer for children to play, more attractive to businesses and more pedestrian-friendly in general.



Figure 116: An overgrown lot strewn with debris. Photo courtesy of Kenneth Cunningham and Associates.

QUALITY OF LIFE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: Create and maintain open space that serves the whole community

Objectives

- Establish well-maintained greenspace throughout the community
- Begin planting trees immediately so that tree canopy is increased from 16% to 25% by 2020

Goal 2: Establish parks and recreation areas and centers that are accessible, well maintained and meet the needs of the community

Objectives

- Improve safety of parks and recreation areas
- Provide a variety of facilities and programs in parks and recreation areas
- Parks and recreation areas should be regularly maintained, updated and assessed

Goal 3: Establish OTR schools as community anchors that provide outstanding educational opportunities and meet the needs of all residents

Objective

- Encourage schools to be resources for the entire community, offering both youth and adult programs

Goal 4: Encourage a diverse mix of cultural organizations and destinations. Destinations should be accessible, affordable, diverse and user-friendly

Objectives

- Celebrate OTR's history and diversity of peoples and individuals
- Increase diversity of cultural offerings and patronage
- Foster mutual appreciation between neighborhood residents, businesses and visitors to the neighborhood
- Recognize the value of local and regional arts and cultural destinations within the neighborhood
- Challenge existing destinations to increase their accessibility to residents of OTR

Goal 5: OTR will be clean and visually appealing for residents and visitors

Objectives

- Make OTR free from litter and other unnecessary debris
- Enhance the neighborhood's character with visual improvements that provide a sense of place
- Encourage public improvements that retain the neighborhood's historic urban character

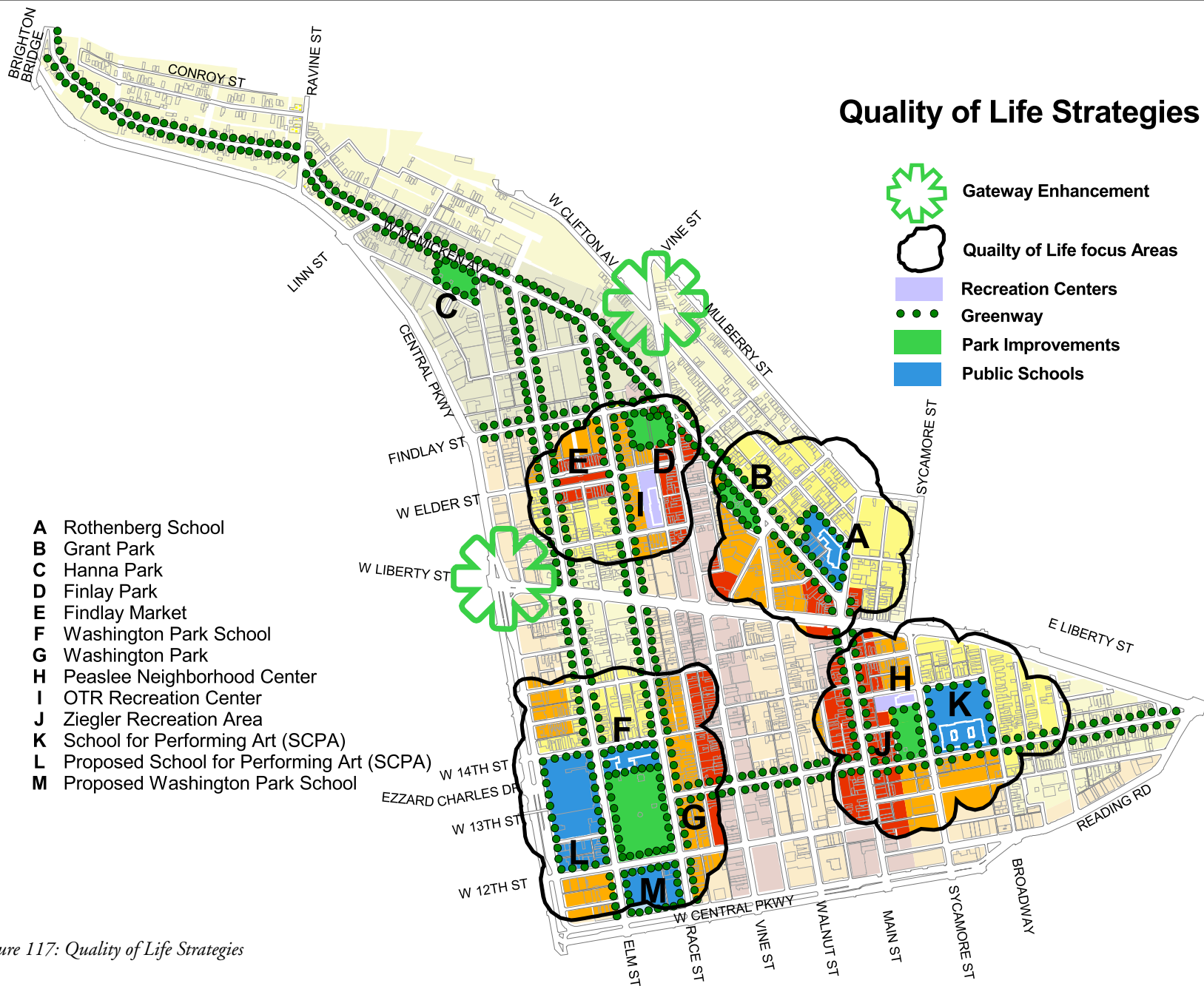


Figure 117: Quality of Life Strategies



Figure 118: A map showing the potential new site for Washington Park School south of 12th Street. Opportunities to expand and add to existing community green space should be pursued. Where major new public facilities are developed (such as the possible new Washington Park School) the incorporation of new public green space in the development is encouraged, especially where it can be connecting to other green spaces. By Consultant - Design Team.

KEY QUALITY OF LIFE RECOMMENDATIONS

School Renovation and New Construction

The most significant recommendations focus on major improvements to area public schools. The ability of the two neighborhood schools and one magnet school to serve as anchors for the neighborhood is greatly improved by the plans of the Cincinnati Public Schools. In addition to upgraded schools, this plan recommends further enhancement of these institutions by focusing housing investment in areas surrounding these institutional improvements. This will provide the opportunity to provide a new and stronger environment for families and children in two important locations.

Rothenberg School should be renovated and expanded with additional open space attached to the school and better pedestrian connections to nearby open spaces. This will provide a key neighborhood anchor north of Liberty Street and a focus to targeted housing renovation and new infill construction along McMicken Avenue, E. Clifton Avenue, Mulberry Street and up the hillside.

Washington Park School is a strong school with a committed teacher and parent community. It, too, should provide a strong anchor and focus to its part of the community. The current proposals for improvements include a new school in its current location or a new school immediately south of Washington Park and the community visioning process indicates preference for the new site south of Washington Park. Either site may be appropriate, but each has design issues and problems to resolve.

Park and Recreation Rehabilitation

Improvements to Existing Parks and Recreation Areas

Of the 12 public-owned parks and recreation areas in OTR, this plan makes specific recommendations for five of the sites with general recommendations for the remaining seven. The five specifically addressed in this plan are *Washington Park*, *Hanna Park*, *Ziegler Recreation Area*, *Grant Park* and *Findlay Recreation Area*. The remaining are primarily pocket parks and recreation areas scattered throughout the neighborhood, which provide passive recreation, playground equipment or vacant land.

Many of the recommended improvements are already in some stage of planning or construction. *Hanna Park* is scheduled for improvements by August 2002 by replacing the out-of-date basketball courts with a pool and “sprayground.” *Grant Park* is also scheduled for renovation with larger trees, new equipment and updated basketball courts. *Washington Park* is in the process of receiving upgrades to its public restroom, enhanced lighting and additional benches and tables.

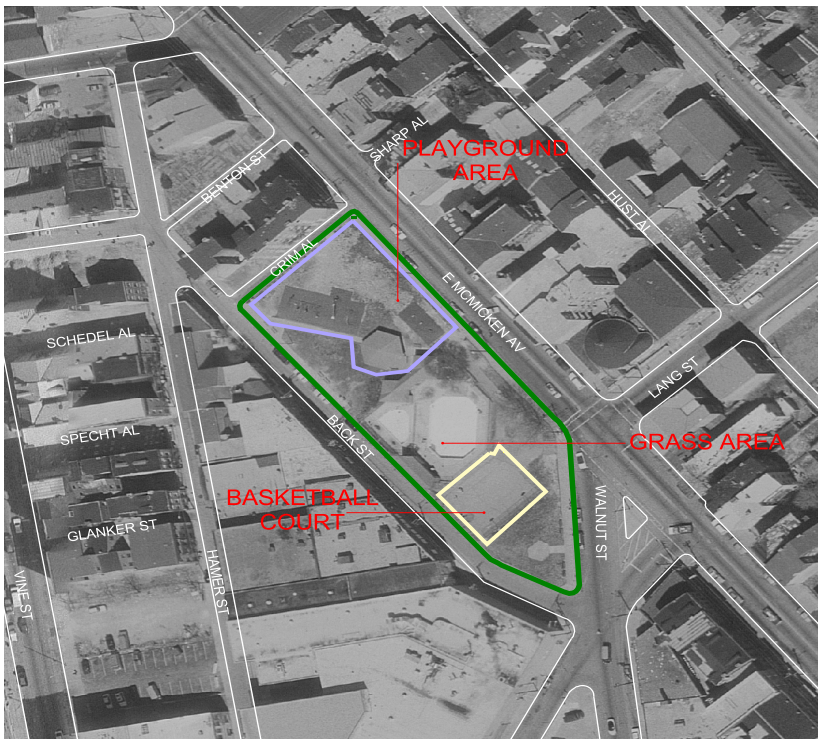


Figure 119: Scheduled improvements to Grant Park.

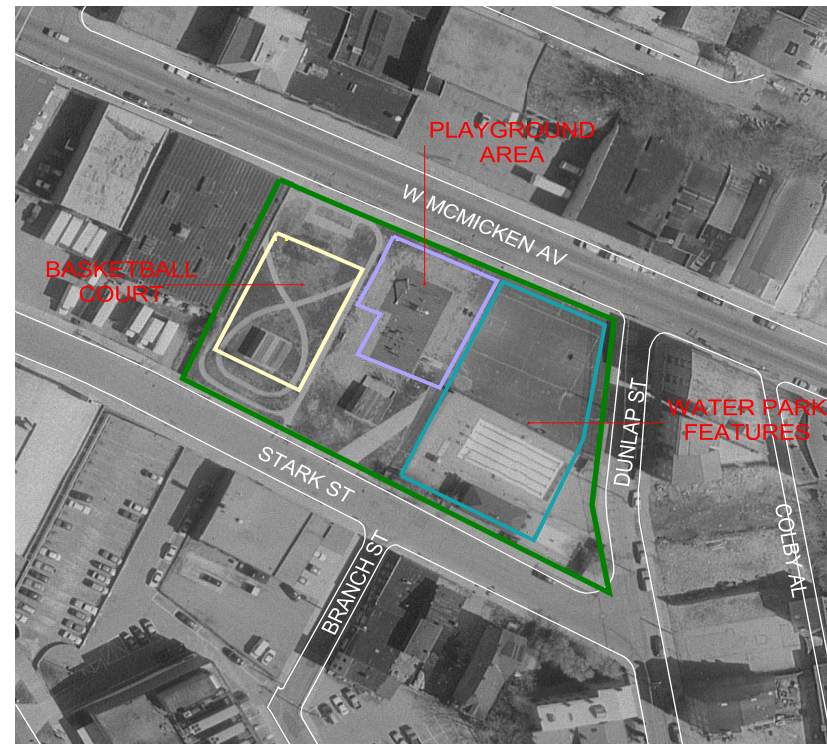


Figure 120: Scheduled improvements to Hanna Park.

The land surrounding *Ziegler Recreation Area* should be reconfigured in order to provide a better connection between Ziegler and Peaslee Neighborhood Center. Moving the Ziegler basketball courts to the site of the parking lot that currently separates the two would help to expand the outdoor play space for the day care center, and make it easier for children at Peaslee to safely access Ziegler Recreation Area. By placing a parking lot in the current location of the basketball courts, local businesses would also have access to much-needed parking. (Please see the Economic Development and Transportation sections of this plan.)

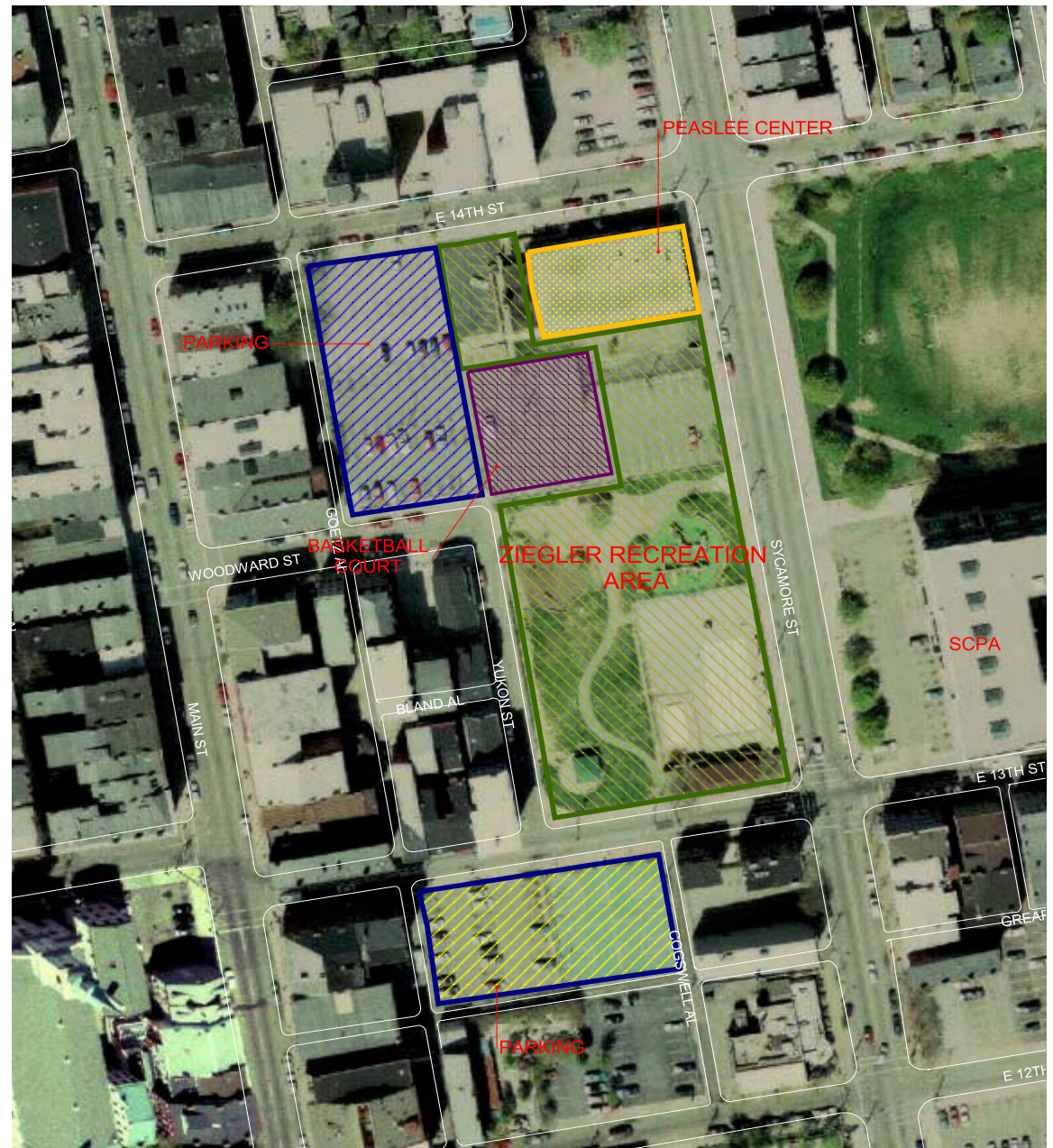


Figure 121: A proposed site plan for reconfiguration of the land surrounding Ziegler Recreation Area. For illustrative purposes only.

The *OTR Recreation Center's* entrance should be made more accessible and visible from Elder Street. This facility should expand further and become more connected to Findlay Market, the Findlay Recreation Area and Vine Street. Integrating the City's Employment and Training Center and the Recreation Center into a more unified building complex and creating a more visible entrance for the complex on Elder Street could accomplish this. The alleyway connecting

the current OTR Recreation Center entrance and Findlay Recreation Area should be upgraded to provide pedestrian-only sections, facilitating safe movement between facilities and area parking lots.

The remaining parks and recreation areas are smaller pocket parks that are under-used or in disrepair. It is recommended that Cincinnati Recreation Commission evaluate these smaller recreation areas to determine what improvements need to be made with regard to the equipment, infrastructure, landscaping, access and safety of the properties.



Figure 122: A view of the entrance to the OTR Recreation Center from Race Street. Photo courtesy of Kenneth Cunningham and Associates.



Figure 123 and 124: View north from the OTR Recreation Center entrance. Public green space that supports neighborhood recreational activities should be maintained and expanded wherever possible. Small-scale single-family owner occupied housing is appropriate for tertiary streets such as Republic Street. By Consultant - Design Team.





Figure 125: The entrance to Findlay Park with the back of the OTR Recreation Center in the background. Photo courtesy of Kenneth Cunningham and Associates.



Figure 126: A proposed view of the entrance to Findlay Park with landscape and lighting enhancements, added building appurtenances, and new housing units on W. Elder Street in the background. By Consultant - Design Team.



Figure 127: A site plan showing potential improvements to the OTR Recreation Center, Findlay Park, and an improved connection between the two. By Consultant - Design Team.

Seeking Out Additional Greenspace Opportunities

Community gardens are already popular in OTR, but there is opportunity to expand this program. Vacant lots can be converted to community gardens, lowering the density of buildings in some residential areas and providing an educational activity for the community.

Any other opportunity to increase greenspace in OTR in small pockets is encouraged. One example of this is the potential conversion of the old Husman's parking lot near St. Francis School. The school is in need of greenspace and there may be an opportunity in the near future to acquire this lot. In a case such as this, the lot should be acquired and converted into greenspace for the school. While the school or another community group would be responsible for land acquisition, conversion and maintenance, the city should be able to assist in helping the community find suitable sites for this type of project.

When the SCPA relocates, the existing open space on the north side of the site will be an important site for an additional neighborhood park. The Cincinnati Park Board has indicated an interest in adding this site to their system.

Greenway to Guide Pedestrians

The Urban Forestry Program of the Cincinnati Park Board's Natural Resource Management Section will work with property owners to plant street trees in the right-of-way. Expand the tree canopy to: Race and Elm Streets, from Central Parkway to McMicken Avenue; on 13th Street, from Race Street to the intersection of Reading Road and Liberty Street; on McMicken Avenue from Sycamore Street to the northwest corner of the neighborhood; on Main Street from 13th Street to Liberty Street; and on all of Findlay Street, from Central Parkway to McMicken Avenue. These locations are designed to connect important destinations in the neighborhood and enhance the character and livability of residential streets.



Figure 128: Semi-public green space created in proposed multi-family building clusters and alley mews is very important to overall residential livability. Private yards where horticulture is promoted are critical to the environmental quality of neighborhood and the attractiveness of single-family home ownership. By Consultant - Design Team.



Figure 129: Map of proposed greenways in OTR.



Figure 130: In some cases new public open/green space can be configured to support anchoring business or major activity generators, such as the proposed public plaza on Benton Street for use by the abutting restaurant. By Consultant - Design Team.



Figure 131: Pocket parks are important at strategic locations throughout the neighborhood that support both passive green space and playgrounds. These are especially important in more densely residential areas and would be enhancements to the smaller scale residential tertiary streets such as Pleasant, Republic, and Clay (along which some already exist). Pocket parks on tertiary streets such as Pleasant Street will provide pedestrian gateways to residential districts. By Consultant - Design Team.

Enhance OTR as an Arts and Cultural Hub in Cincinnati

The diverse cultural institutions, programs and artists who live and perform in OTR are one of the neighborhood's greatest assets. These organizations have been the source of some friction in the neighborhood; they will also be vital to the overall revitalization of the neighborhood. There are a number of important projects included in this plan that will further enhance the existing cultural offerings in the neighborhood and greatly improve existing institutions.



Figure 132: Patrons inside Music Hall during a performance. Photo courtesy of Music Hall.

The Pendleton Arts District

During the last several years, the Pendleton neighborhood has emerged as one of the midwest's most exciting arts community. Each month, thousands of arts enthusiasts visit Pendleton's vast network of converted lofts and studios where hundreds of artists create, display, and sell their work.

The Pendleton arts community is anchored on the west by the SCPA and to the east by the Pendleton Arts Center. Established in 1992, the Pendleton Art Center is the creative hub for more than 150 artists working in studios in six renovated buildings, including the historic eight-story Shillito's warehouse.

The economic impact of a thriving arts community is important to the City of Cincinnati. City staff is now working with developers and neighborhood groups to build a true live-work community in Pendleton. This plan recommends attractive pedestrian connections from this location to the Washington Park / Music Hall area and to Vine Street and Main Street. New sidewalks, streetlights, trees, and other streetscape improvements will spur the development of new homes and the restoration of the neighborhood's large collection of 19th century Federal-style townhomes. Artists and homeowners are coming together to restore Pendleton to an energetic community of shops, galleries, churches and homes. Pendleton is indeed leading the charge to bring homeownership and vitality back to OTR.

New K-12 Arts School

The relocation of the SCPA to the site adjacent to Music Hall will enhance and enliven both institutions. In addition to a new location the program will be expanded to a school for kindergarten through grade 12. This will make this facility one of the few K-12 arts schools in the state. The power of having that type of facility associated directly with Music Hall will add to the strength of both programs. It also presents a wonderful opportunity for children in the neighborhood to have access to arts education and performance art on a national scale. The illustration gives some indication of the project and its scope. The new construction of the Washington Park Elementary School in this same location presents an opportunity to create a wonderful integrated education and arts center in the Washington Park area.



Figure 133: A preliminary site plan for the new K-12 Arts School. Illustration courtesy of Cole Russell + Fanning Howey + Moody Nolan.

Art Academy of Cincinnati

A second major addition to the educational opportunities in the neighborhood will be the relocation of the Art Academy of Cincinnati into OTR. The Academy's new home at 1216 Jackson Street and 22 E. 12th Street will bring an undergraduate and a graduate program in fine arts to the neighborhood. Students will be welcome new residents in OTR. The Academy will provide expanded opportunities for arts education to area residents (youth and adults), additional gallery space and new works for people to see, new inspiration to Academy students and a new anchor in the south-central part of the neighborhood. The location of the new facility is very consistent with the future land use plan.



Figure 134: 22 E. 12th Street



Figures 135 and 136: Conceptual drawings of new Art Academy of Cincinnati. Proposed entrance on Jackson Street (left), and proposed view on 12th Street (right). Renderings courtesy of Art Academy of Cincinnati.



Appearance

Many efforts can be taken to beautify the neighborhood further and call attention to the exquisite architectural details. Future development should be well designed and compatible with the neighborhood's built environment. Informational signs should be placed throughout the neighborhood to call attention to historical and culturally significant sites. Building appurtenances such as flower boxes, complementary awnings and banners should be encouraged. Public art such as murals and sculptures can become landmarks as well as provide publicity for neighborhood artists.



Figure 137: A mural on a building near Findlay Market that was created by the Art in the Market Summer Program of the UC Community Design Center.

Encourage infrastructure improvements and preservation to retain the neighborhood's unique character. When possible, utility lines should be relocated underground to offer an uncluttered streetscape; decorative light poles should be disbursed throughout the commercial areas in the neighborhood to provide consistency with Main Street. The granite curbs should be preserved whenever possible. Also, gateways should be considered at the entrance to the neighborhood from the north on Vine Street, at Main Street and Central Parkway, at Liberty Street and Central Parkway and at Liberty Street and Reading Road.



Figure 138: An OTR building outfitted with flower boxes. This movement began during the summer of 2001; it added color and greenery to the neighborhood and improved the appearance of individual buildings.

*Figures 139 - 143: **Improve the Pedestrian environment.** Provide additional and well placed trash receptacles, additional historically appropriate pedestrian scale lighting, culturally appropriate place marking and gateway elements, public art, wayfinding/identity signage, banners, and other street graphics, and additional tree canopy as a major part of the urban landscape. By Consultant - Design Team.*



Major Gateway Plinths



Boulevard Lighting



Commercial Street Lighting



Residential Street Lighting



Park Lighting

Figure139: Lighting improvements to enhance streetscape. The provision of street and alley lighting is important to the quality of the public space and the livability of the adjacent residences. Light fixtures should be pedestrian oriented and designed to minimize “light trespassing” into upper floor residences. By Consultant - Design Team.

Figure 141: Entrance sculptures. By Consultant - Design Team.

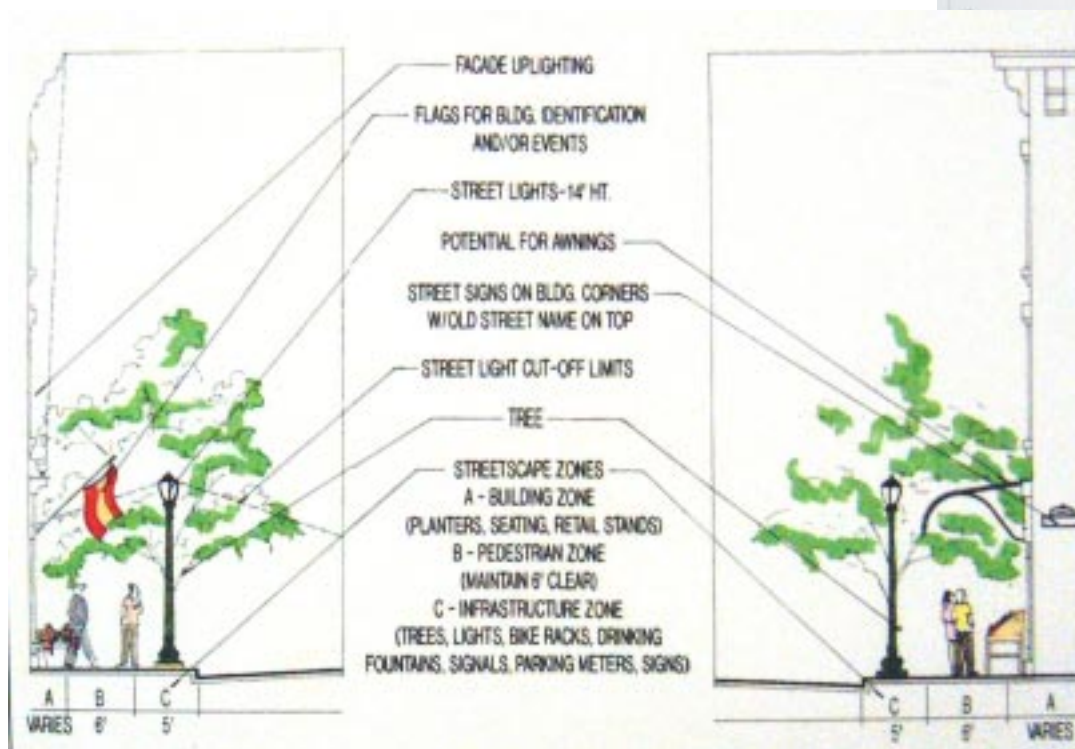
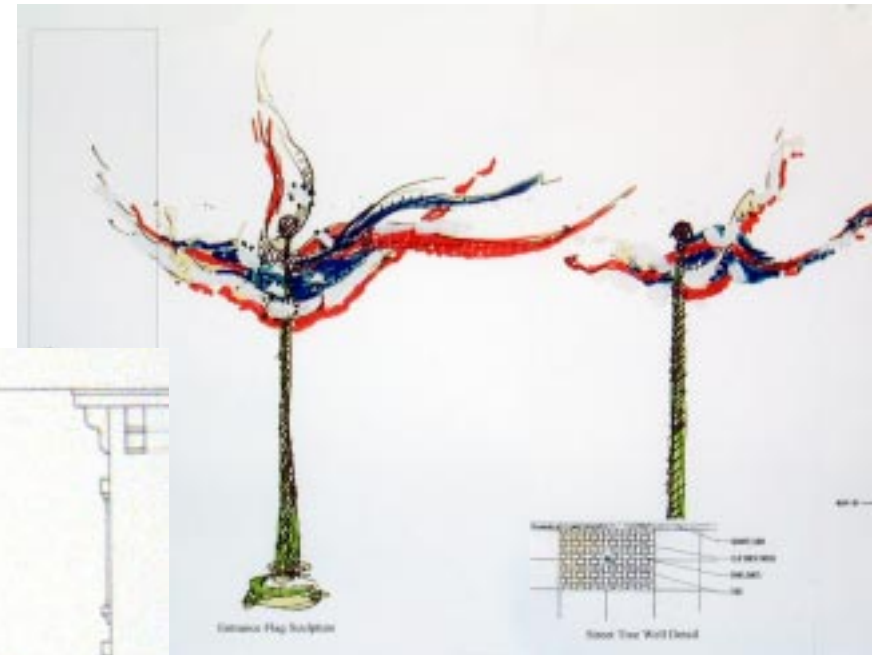


Figure 140: Typical Street Section in OTR. By Consultant - Design Team.



Figure 142: Streetscape details. By Consultant - Design Team.

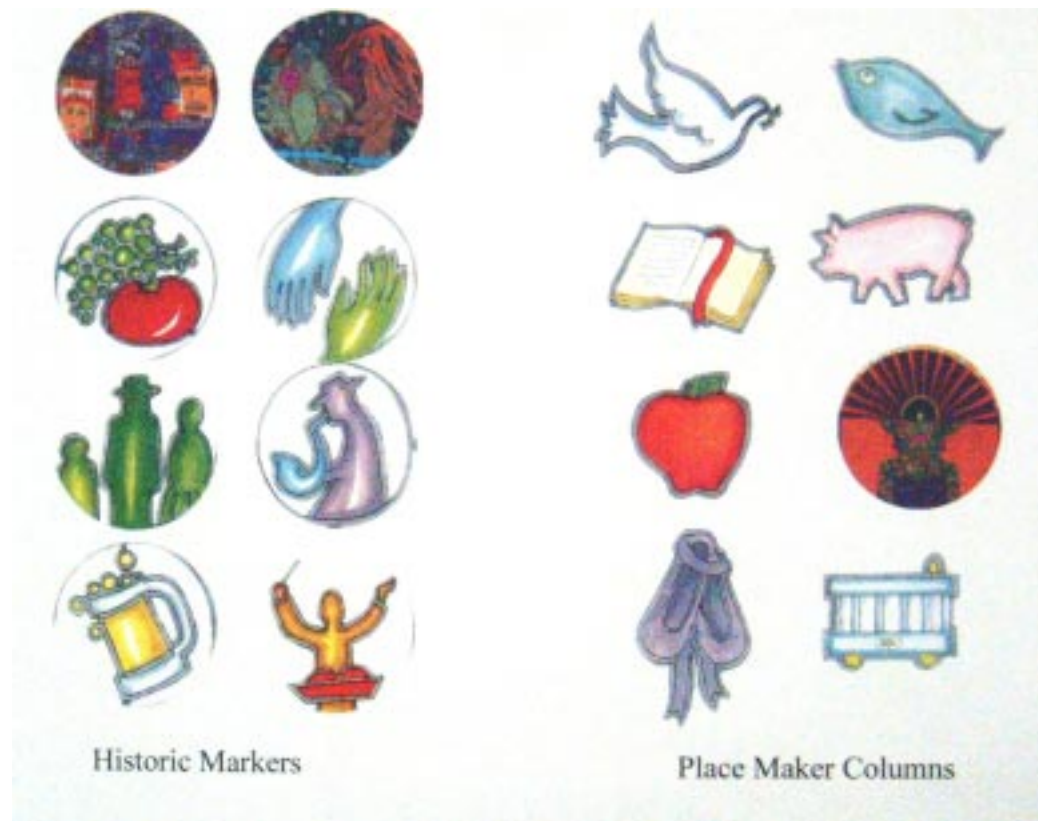


Figure 143: Concept ideas for symbols. By Consultant - Design Team.

QUALITY OF LIFE PRIORITY PROJECTS

The City is committed to the implementation of this Plan. The following projects are consistent with the Quality of Life recommendations, are currently underway and are expected to be completed within the next 2-3 years.

Phase One Committed Projects To be completed by 2004

Hanna Park Improvements

Enhancements to include a “Sprayground” and other improvements

City Investment: \$200,000

Private Funds, Armleder Trust: \$985,000

Federal investment: \$500,000

Total investment: \$1,685,000

Scheduled completion: Summer 2003

Grant Park Improvements

New equipment, updated basketball courts, additional trees and landscaping

City investment: \$200,000

Scheduled completion: Spring 2003

Washington Park Improvements

Upgrade restrooms, enhance lighting, install “Community Art Bench”

Bench is a project between CRC, Park Board, Contact Center, Peaslee Center, and Art Academy of Cincinnati

City investment: \$17,000

Partners investment: \$15,000

Scheduled completion: Summer 2002

Rebuild Washington Park Elementary School

New school immediately south of Washington Park

Restore current site back into park space

Cincinnati Public Schools investment: \$16,000,000

Scheduled completion: Open for the 2004 school year

Establish the New Entrepreneurial High School

Located with the Cincinnati Business Incubator on Central Parkway

Cincinnati Public Schools/ Gates Foundation Grant

Scheduled completion: Open for 2003 school year

Construct Parking Garage for Washington Park School/Music Hall Complex

Development of additional parking at the Town Center Garage to serve Music Hall, the new School for the Performing Arts, and the new Washington Park School

Partners include the Cincinnati Public Schools, the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, the City of Cincinnati, and other to be determined

Investment to be determined

Scheduled completion: Open in 2003-4

Summary of Investments

City of Cincinnati: \$417,000

School Board and other investments: \$17,500,000
